

at the processing arrangement, employing the first rule and the second rule to securely govern at least one aspect of access to or use of the governed item, and storing audit-related information relating to the access or use.

92. The method of claim 91, in which:
the first rule is directly or indirectly received from a first entity; and
the second rule is directly or indirectly received from a second entity different from the first entity.

93. The method of claim 91, in which:
the step of receiving the first rule includes receiving the governed item along with the first rule.

94. The method of claim 93, in which:
at least a portion of the governed item is received in an encrypted state; and
the step of employing the first rule and the second rule to securely govern at least one aspect of access to or use of the governed item includes decrypting at least a portion of the governed item.

95. A method for using a governed item including the following steps:
(a) encrypting at least a portion of the governed item;
(b) storing the governed item in a memory of a first processing arrangement located at a first site;
(c) receiving a first rule set made up of one or more rules at the first processing arrangement, the first rule set being received directly or indirectly from a second processing arrangement located at a second site located remotely from the first site;

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(d) at the first processing arrangement, decrypting at least a portion of the governed item, the decryption being governed at least in part by one or more of the first rule set rules;

(e) at the first processing arrangement, making a use of the governed item, the use being governed at least in part by one or more of the first rule set rules; and

(f) at the first processing arrangement, storing audit-related information relating to the use of the governed item, the storage being governed at least in part by one or more of the first rule set rules.

96. The method of claim 95, further including:

(g) using at least a portion of the audit-related information to determine a payment.

97. The method of claim 95, in which the audit information includes payment information.

98. The method of claim 95, in which the audit information includes identification information.

99. The method of claim 98, in which the audit information includes information at least in part identifying the first processing arrangement or a user of the first processing arrangement.

100. The method of claim 95, further including:

(g) receiving a second rule set made up of one or more rules at the first processing arrangement, the second rule set being received separately from the first rule set.

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101. The method of claim 100, in which:
the second rule set is directly or indirectly received from a third processing arrangement located at a third site remote from the first site and from the second site.

102. The method of claim 101, further including:
(h) using a rule from the second rule set to at least in part govern an aspect of access to or use of the governed item.

103. The method of claim 102, in which:
the step of using the second rule set rule includes at least in part governing an attempt to transfer at least a portion of the governed data item from the first data processing arrangement to a different data processing arrangement.

104. A method for performing a commercial process including the following steps:
at a processing arrangement located at a first site, receiving a first communication including a first programming module and first authentication information, the first communication being directly or indirectly received from a second site located remotely from the first site;

at the processing arrangement, using the first authentication information to at least in part authenticate the first programming module;

at the processing arrangement, receiving a second communication including a second programming module and second authentication information, the second communication being directly or indirectly received from a third site located remotely from the first site and from the second site;

at the processing arrangement, using the second authentication information to at least in part authenticate the second programming module; and

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at the processing arrangement, executing programming from the first programming module and programming from the second programming module, the execution contributing to the performance of a commercial process, the commercial process including the following steps:

- (1) using a governed item; and
- (2) storing audit-related information relating to the governed item use.

105. The method of claim 104, in which the governed item includes digitally-encoded audio, and the step of using the governed item further includes rendering at least a portion of the digitally-encoded audio through an output device.

106. A method of governing an operation at a processing arrangement, including:

- (a) at the processing arrangement, receiving a first control directly or indirectly from a first party;
- (b) at the processing arrangement, receiving a second control directly or indirectly from a second party;
- (c) at the processing arrangement, using the first control and the second control to at least in part govern a use of an item;
- (d) storing a first type of audit-related information relating to the use of the item, the storing being required by the first control; and
- (e) storing a second type of audit-related information relating to the use of the item, the storing being required by the second control.

107. The method of claim 106, in which the information stored in step (d) or step (e) includes information at least in part identifying the processing arrangement or a user of the processing arrangement.

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108. A method including:
storing a first control in a memory of a processing arrangement;
at the processing arrangement, receiving a data item, the data item being at least partially encrypted;
at the processing arrangement, receiving a second control;
using the first or second control to at least in part govern the decryption of at least a portion of the data item; and
using the first control or the second control to govern an aspect of access to or use of the data item, the governance including requiring that audit-related information be stored.

109. The method of claim 108, in which the stored information includes information relating to payment for the access or use of the data item.

110. A method of controlling an operation at a processing arrangement including a memory, a removable memory reader and a communications port, including:
storing a first digital control in the memory;
inserting a removable memory into the removable memory reader;
detecting a governed item stored in the removable memory, the governed item being at least in part encrypted;
receiving a second digital control through the communications port;
using at least a portion of the governed item, the use being governed at least in part by the first digital control and the second digital control; and
storing audit-related information relating to the use of the governed item.

111. The method of claim 110 in which the removable memory is an optical disk.